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Signature Date 3 October 2002

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of
EUGEN MÜLLER et al.
Serial No.: 09/916,378
Filed On: 27 July 2001

Docket No. 2821-213
Date: 3 October 2002
Group Art Unit: 1725
Examiner: L. Tran

TITLE: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR WELDING SHEET OVERLAPS

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This communication is in response to the non-final office action of 19 July 2002, which has a response period set to expire on 19 October 2002. Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1-10 and 16-18 are withdrawn from consideration and claims 11-15, 19 and 20 are rejected. Please enter the following amendments:

In The Claims:

Please enter the following amended claims, a "marked-up" copy of which can be found in the Appendix attached hereto:

Thrice
--11. (*Twice* Amended) A welding apparatus with welding electrode rollers, an AC welding current source that is selectively connectable to the electrodes by a controllable switch arrangement, and a control device for the switch arrangement, characterized in that: